BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA OXON

DIEVET MON DROIT

A PROCLAMATION

ORDERED

By His Majesties Privy Council of Scotland,

For the Horrid Murther of JAMES *late Lord Archbishop of St.* Andrews, *Primate and Metropolitan of all* Scotland, *and one of His Majesties Most Honourable Privy Council of that Kingdom.*

At Edenburgh, *Sunday* the Fourth of May, 1679.

CHARLES By the Grace of GOD, King of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, *&c.* To Our *Lyon* King at Arms, and his Brethren Heraulds, Macers, or Messengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and severally specially constitute, Greeting: We being fully and by legal Proofs assured of the late Horrid and Bloody Murther committed upon *Saturday* last, being the Third Day of *May* instant, by Ten or Eleven Fanatick and Execrable Assassinates, upon the Person of the most Reverend Father in GOD, *JAMES* late Archbishop of St. *Andrews*, Primate of all *Scotland*; which Barbarous and Inhumane Assassination will (we doubt not) spread Horrour and Amazement in the Hearts of such as believe that there is a GOD, or a Christian Religion; A Cruelty exceeding the Barbarity of Pagans and Heathens, amongst whom the Officers and Ministers of Religion are reputed to be Sacred, and are by the respect born to a Deity whom they Adore, secured against all such Bloody and Execrable Attempts; A Cruelty exceeding the belief of all true Protestants, whose Churches [illegible] justly Stigmatized with the Marks of Impiety all such as defile with Blood those Hands which they ought to hold up to Heaven; and a [illegible]ty equal to any with which we can reproach the Enemies of this True and Reformed Church! By which also not only the Principles [illegible]manе Society, but our Authority and Government (the Archbishop of St. *Andrews* being one of Our Privy Council) is highly violated, [illegible]xample and Incouragement given for Murthering all such as serve Us faithfully according to the Prescript of Our Laws and Royal Com-

mands: Daily Inſtances whereof We are to expect whilſt Field-Conventicles, thoſe Rendezvouſes of Rebellion, and Forgers of all Bloody and Jeſuitical Principles, are ſo frequented and followed, to the ſcandal of all Government, and the Contempt of Our Laws; and which Murther is as far as is poſſible rendered yet more deteſtable by the unmasked Boldneſs of ſuch as durſt openly with bare Faces in the midſt of Our Kingdom, at Mid-day aſſemble themſelves together, to Kill in Our High-Way the Primate of Our Kingdom, and one of Our Privy Council, by ſo many Strokes and Shots, as left his Body as it were but one Wound, and many of which being given after they knew he was Dead, were remarkable Proofs they were acted by a Spirit of Helliſh and Inſatiable Cruelty:

Have therefore, with Advice of Our Privy Council, thought fit hereby to Command and Charge all Sheriffs, Stewards, Bayliffs of Regalities and Bayliaries, and their Deputies, Magiſtrates of Burghs, and Officers of Our Standing Forces, to Search, Seek, Take, and Apprehend the Perſons Guilty of the ſaid Horrid Murder, or any Suſpected by them, until they be brought to Juſtice; and all our good and faithful Subjects to concur in the Taking and Securing (as far as is in their power) thoſe Aſſaſſinates. And in reſpect there is a Company of vagrant and skulking Ruffians, who, to the great Contempt of all Government, do Ride through this Our Kingdom, Killing Our Soldiers, Deforcing ſuch as put Our Laws in Execution, and Committing ſuch Horrible Murders, who might be eaſily Diſcovered, if all ſuch, amongſt whom they Converſe, did, according to their Duty, endeavor to Apprehend them, or give Notice of their Reſidence. We have therefore thought fit, Conform to the 144 Act of Parliament 12, King *James* 6. to Command and Charge all Our Subjects, that whenever any unknown Men or Vagabonds happen to repair amongſt them, That they with all poſſible ſpeed Certifie any of Our Privy Council, Officers of Our Forces, or any having Truſt under Us thereof; With Certification to them, That if they omit the ſame, they ſhall be puniſhed with all Rigor, Conform to the ſaid Act. And ſince ſeveral of the ſaid Aſſaſſinates are known to have been Tenants in the Shire of *Fiffe*, whoſe Faces will be known to ſuch of the Witneſſes as were preſent. We hereby Require and Command all the Heretors and Maſters of the ſaid Shire of *Fiffe* and *Kinroſſe*, to bring their Tenants, Cottars and Servants, living in the reſpective Presbyteries, upon the ſeveral days, and to the places following, *viz.* To St. *Andrews*, *&c.* There to be ſeen by the ſaid Witneſſes, and to continue there until they be Examined; With Certification to ſuch of the ſaid Tenants, Cottars and Servants as ſhall be abſent, they ſhall be reputed as acceſſory to the ſaid Crime; And the Maſters, if they produce them not, or if hereafter they harbor any that ſhall not Compeer, they ſhall be reputed as Favorers of the ſaid Aſſaſſination; And whereas there are ſeveral Perſons under Caption and Intercommuning in the ſaid Shire for ſeveral Cauſes, and left Perſons, who are innocent, may be thereby debarred from appearing, We have thought fit hereby to ſiſt and ſuperſede all Execution upon any Letters of Caption or Intercommuning, or any other Warrant, for ſecuring of Perſons for the ſpace of Forty eight hours, after the ſaid Diets of appearance. And to the end the ſaid cruel Murder may be the more eaſily diſcovered, We do hereby offer and give full aſſurance of our Indempnity to any one of the ſaid Aſſaſſinates, who ſhall diſcover his Complices, and ſuch as hounded them out, and preſent payment of the Sum of Ten Thouſand Merks to any who ſhall inform who were the ſaid Aſſaſſinates, if upon his Information they, or any of them can be apprehended, that they may be brought to condign Puniſhment. And We Ordain theſe Preſents to be Printed and Publiſhed at the Market-Croſs of *Edenburgh*, and other Places needful.

Given under Our Signet at Edenburgh, *the Fourth Day of* May 1679. *and of Our Reign the One and Thirtieth Year.*

GOD ſave the KING.

Reprinted at *LONDON* by *THO. NEWCOMB.* 1679.